

Message Text

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ORIGIN PRS-01

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

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FOR HODDING CARTER FROM S/PRS - TRATTNER

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.), CH

SUBJECT: EVENING PRESS REPORT/NO 20

NEWSPAPERS

LA TIMES -- LINDA MATHEWS FROM PEKING

LEAD: "VANCE COMPLETED HIS FIVE-DAY MISSION TO CHINA
EARLY TODAY WITHOUT HAVING GAINED ANY GROUND TOWARD THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF NORMAL SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS. BUT THE
SECRETARY SAID THAT THE TALKS 'ENHANCED OUR MUTUAL UNDER-
STANDING AND CONFIRMED IMPORTANT COMMON POINTS OF INTEREST.'"

OTHER POINTS:

--NEITHER IN TOAST NOR IN PRESS CONFERENCE DID VANCE
REPORT SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS TOWARD NORMALIZATION.
--VANCE SAID HE ANTICIPATED FURTHER DISCUSSIONS IN
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COMING MONTHS.

--VANCE REFUSED TO REVEAL DETAILS OF TALKS BUT MADE IT
CLEAR THAT CHINESE, DESPITE IMPATIENCE VOICED IN RECENT
MONTHS, HAVE NOT LOST INTEREST IN FORGING FULL DIPLOMATIC
LINKS WITH WASHINGTON.
--AT END OF VISIT MOOD OF AMERICAN DELEGATION WAS
DECIDEDLY UPBEAT, DESPITE ABSENCE OF CONCRETE RESULTS.

WIRES

AP -- BARRY SCHWEID FROM TOKYO

LEAD: "VANCE FLEW FROM PEKING TO TOKYO TODAY TO BRIEF PM FUKUDA ON HIS RECENT VISIT WITH CHINA'S NEW LEADERS AND RELAY PRESIDENT CARTER'S CONCERN OVER A NUCLEAR PLANT JAPAN IS PLANNING."

OTHER POINTS:

-- DETAILS OF TALKS NOT DISCLOSED, BUT JAPANESE SOURCES SAID THEY INCLUDED DISCUSSION OF JAPAN'S PLANS TO BUILD NUCLEAR REPROCESSING PLANT.

-- VANCE HANDED FUKUDA MESSAGE FROM CARTER.

-- JAPANESE SOURCES SAID FUKUDA ALSO RAISED QUESTION OF US-JAPAN TRADE.

UPI -- JIM ANDERSON FROM TOKYO

LEAD: "VANCE TOLD JAPANESE LEADERS FRIDAY HIS FOUR DAYS OF TALKS IN CHINA WOULD BENEFIT AMERICA'S ASIAN ALLIES, EVEN THOUGH HE MADE LITTLE PROGRESS TOWARD ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PEKING."

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OTHER POINTS:

-- US OFFICIALS INFORMED FUKUDA THAT ALTHOUGH NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON SETTING UP DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS, US BELIEVES NORMALIZATION WILL BENEFIT OTHER ASIAN NATIONS BY RECOGNIZING A REALITY THAT HAS EXISTED FOR SOME TIME.

-- VANCE REASSURED JAPANESE THAT NEW US CONTACTS WITH PRC WILL NOT AFFECT STABILITY IN KOREA.

-- VANCE ALSO EXPECTED TO DISCUSS AMERICAN AGREEMENT TO SUPPLY NUCLEAR FUEL FOR TOKAI MURA POWER PLANT.

-- AMERICAN OFFICIALS ASSESSING CHINA VISIT AND TOTAL IMPRESSION IS POSITIVE; THEY BELIEVE CHINESE WELL INFORMED ON US POLITICAL SCENE AND PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH DRAMATIC SHIFT IN US POLICY TOWARD PRC.

REUTERS -- VERGIL BERGER FROM TOKYO

LEAD: "VANCE TONIGHT BRIEFED PM FUKUDA ON HIS TALKS THIS WEEK WITH CHINESE LEADERS AND TOLD HIM BOTH SIDES HAD AGREED IN PEKING TO CONTINUE SINO-AMERICAN DIALOGUE."

OTHER POINTS:

-- JAPANESE FM SOURCES SAID VANCE AGAIN REFERRED TO

HIS TALKS IN PEKING AS EXPLORATORY AND SAID THEY HAD NOT BEEN AIMED AT FINDING FINAL SOLUTION ON QUESTION OF ESTABLISHING DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

-- SPOKESMAN REFUSED TO REVEAL CONTENTS OF MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER THAT VANCE DELIVERED TO PM FUKUDA.

-- FUKUDA BRIEFED VANCE ON HIS VISITS THIS MONTH TO ASEAN STATES AND BURMA AND VANCE EXPRESSED PRESIDENT CARTER'S ADMIRATION OF FUKUDA'S INITIATIVE IN THE AREA (ECONOMIC AID).

-- SPOKESMAN SAID HE DID NOT KNOW WHETHER JAPAN'S TRADE SURPLUS OR POSSIBILITY OF CARTER VISIT WAS RAISED
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IN THE TALKS.

TELEVISION

NBC NEWS

BRINKLEY: "SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS VANCE IS IN JAPAN TELLING THEM WHAT HE SAID TO THE CHINESE DURING HIS VISIT THERE AND WHAT THEY SAID TO HIM. APPARENTLY IT WASN'T MUCH."

CBS NEWS

NO WORD OF VANCE TRIP.

ABC NEWS

REASONER: SECRETARY VANCE SPENT THE DAY IN TOKYO TO BRIEF JAPANESE LEADERS ON HIS MISSION TO CHINA. HE ALSO SENT EMISSARIES TO TAIWAN AND SOUTH KOREA FOR THE SAME PURPOSE.

PETER JENNINGS HAS THIS ASSESSMENT OF THE CHINA VISIT.

JENNINGS: BEFORE MR. VANCE WENT TO CHINA HE MADE ESSENTIALLY UNSUCCESSFUL TRIPS TO RUSSIA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. IT WOULD PROBABLY BE A MISTAKE, HOWEVER, RUSHING TO JUDGMENT ABOUT HIS MISSION TO PEKING. FOR ONE THING, THE CHINESE AND MR. VANCE STUDIOUSLY AVOIDED SAYING WHETHER THEY HAD MADE ANY PROGRESS IN THOSE AREAS WHERE THEY FUNDAMENTALLY DISAGREE. IF THERE IS VALUE IN PERSONAL DIPLOMACY, THEN IT HAS BEEN BENEFICIAL FOR THE SECRETARY TO MEET TWO OF CHINA'S NEW LEADERS. IT'S QUITE LIKELY THE NEW CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY WOULDN'T HAVE RECEIVED HIM UNLESS THE DIALOGUE WAS ON A SERIOUS LEVEL.
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MR. VANCE MAY HAVE BEEN INHIBITED BY THE FACT THAT IT DOESN'T APPEAR PRESIDENT CARTER HAS MADE ANY HARD DECISIONS ABOUT WHICH DIRECTION HIS CHINA POLICY WILL TAKE. ON THE CHINESE SIDE -- AND THIS MAY TAKE SOME PRESSURE OFF WASHINGTON -- CHINA HAS A HUGE AGENDA OF PROBLEMS AT HOME.

THE NEW LEADERSHIP MAY NOT BE IN A HURRY TO CONFRONT THE US ON THE ISSUE OF TAIWAN. FOR ONE THING, THE CHINESE REMAIN INTERESTED IN THE US AS A FOIL AGAINST SOVIET ASPIRATIONS. FINALLY, TO GIVE MR. VANCE HIS DUE, HE HAS LEFT CHINA IN ROUGHLY THE SAME FRAME OF MIND THAT HE LEFT WASHINGTON -- RE-EMPHASIZING THAT THOSE WHO EXPECTED A BREAKTHROUGH AT THIS POINT WOULD BE WRONG. EVEN CHAIRMAN HUA KUO-FENG HAS BEGUN TO USE MR. VANCE'S SOMEWHAT OVER-WORKED PHRASE TO CHARACTERIZE THE TALKS -- "THEY WERE EXPLORATORY." CHRISTOPHER

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